

reserves to an historic level. Her successful leadership has led her team to entice new businesses to locate in Lakewood.

Kathy's collaborative nature was demonstrated when she spearheaded an effort to save a Lakewood middle school from closure. Now, that school is part of the International Baccalaureate (IB) program and home to Jefferson County's first Boys and Girls Club.

Among her successes, Kathy is president of the Metro City and County Management Association and sits on the Jeffco Schools Capital Asset Advisory Committee. Also, Kathy was appointed by Governor Hickenlooper to the Red Rock's Community College President's Advisory Council.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Kathy Hodgson for her well deserved honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County and to thank her for her commitment to our community. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO ERIC ADAMS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to honor Eric L. Adams, a former Captain of the New York City Police Department and current member of the New York State Senate.

As a Captain in the NYPD, Eric Adams became well-known to New Yorkers as a tireless and thoughtful advocate for the people and communities he served, and he earned widespread praise for creating innovative programs on issues ranging from conflict resolution to child abuse prevention. Eric Adams co-founded 100 Blacks in Law Enforcement Who Care, a group comprised of law enforcement personnel and their supporters, to provide assistance and subsidies to community-based organizations that strive to improve their neighborhoods. He also is a former Chairperson of the Grand Council for the Guardians and serves on the board of the Eastern District Counseling Service, an organization that assists former substance abusers to live productive lives without dependency on drugs or alcohol. On November 7, 2006, Captain Adams ended his 22-year career in the New York City Police Department; Eric L. Adams traded his blue uniform for a blue suit when the resident of the 20th Senatorial District elected him to the New York State Senate.

Eric Adams is well known for his efforts in closing the gap through changing relationships between law enforcement and the residents of New York's diverse neighborhoods. His highly-regarded instructional workshops, "What To Do When Stopped By The Police," has helped thousands of young people throughout New York learn to interact more appropriately with the police by using established conflict resolution skills. The forums have been duplicated throughout the country and provided a generation of youngsters with a better understanding of reliable methods to resolve difficult conflicts—not only with the police, but also with teachers, peers, and others. Senator Adams also created a series of free public safety seminars for New York City parents to ad-

dress issues including gang awareness and child abuse prevention and to review methods to protect children from abduction. He also created an annual "Cradle to College" Parent and Youth Empowerment Seminar to empower families and enable parents to build upon their progeny's strengths to avoid the pitfalls of youth.

Mr. Speaker, may our country continue to benefit from the civic actions of committed and laudable community leaders such as Eric L. Adams.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to New York State Senator Eric Adams.

HONORING CONGREGATION AHAVATH SHOLOM

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Congregation Ahavath Sholom for its 120 years of dedication to the Fort Worth community. Congregation Ahavath Sholom was established in 1892, and is the oldest Jewish congregation in Fort Worth, Texas.

Led by Rabbi Andrew Bloom and Cantor Shoshana Abrams, this Conservative Congregation holds a deep commitment to Tikkun Olam, repairing of the world. Through interfaith programs and outreach, Congregation Ahavath Sholom acts upon this commitment.

For many years the congregation has collected food for the Tarrant County Food Bank on Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the Jewish calendar. This year, Congregation Ahavath Sholom is holding its 2nd Annual Community-wide Chanukah Candle Lighting in which the City of Fort Worth has joined as an official sponsor. Mayor Betsy Price and I will serve as honorary candle lighters.

Chanukah, the Festival of Lights, commemorates the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem after the Jewish victory over an oppressive army of Syrians and Greeks in 165 B.C.E., who had not allowed the Jewish people to live or worship freely. This Festival celebrates the freedom of religion, culture and self-determination that God has granted to all human beings—a founding principle of our country.

Congregation Ahavath Sholom participated in Mayor Betsy Price's "Connect with the Community" program on October 25th. During the ceremony, the Congregation was honored for its participation in the Tarrant Area Community of Churches and Fort Worth Housing Authority's "Clean for Quarters" program—a program allowing those who were formerly homeless to have clean clothes ready for job interviews and work assignments.

Through Rabbi Bloom's involvement and leadership, the congregation has enjoyed new initiatives in the areas of pluralism and cultural diversity in collaboration with the Fort Worth Intermediate School District, and has worked to foster greater understanding between faiths with its neighboring churches, the Brite Divinity School and Texas Christian University.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COLUMBIA NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM CRITICAL AUTHORITIES ACT OF 2012

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, The National Park System Critical Authorities Act of 2012, which I introduce today, is a bill that I have worked on with the National Park Service (NPS), at its request, to create greater efficiency and to address three common-sense issues: (1) snow removal from federal agency property in the District of Columbia, (2) visitor and employee access to historic NPS property in Virginia, and (3) uniform penalties for violations on NPS lands.

Section two of the bill amends a 1922 law by making federal agencies in the District responsible for the removal of snow and ice in public areas associated with their buildings. For years, agencies have taken this common-sense approach in the District and assumed this responsibility, but the law has never been updated to reflect the practice, leaving NPS with legal liability. This bill simply brings the law in line with current practice.

Section three of the bill promotes greater efficiency and protection to NPS, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) by authorizing a small interagency land exchange near the George Washington Memorial Parkway. Currently, Colonial Farm Road provides public and staff access to Claude Moore Colonial Farm (the Farm), but also serves as an entrance road to the CIA's George Bush Center for Intelligence and the FHWA Turner Fairbanks Research Center. NPS and FHWA have a written agreement permitting visitor access to the Farm. However, the three agencies have discussed concerns over crossing property lines, the need to improve security and add perimeter fencing, and the need to have uninterrupted access to their properties. The agencies have identified parcels on their boundaries suitable for exchange that will provide access to the Farm, and provide the means to improve security for the CIA and FHWA facilities.

Section four of the bill eliminates inconsistencies in federal penalties for crimes committed in certain park units. The inclusion of a number of military and historic sites in the National Park System during the 1930s resulted in a disparity in criminal penalties, which undermines fair and effective law enforcement and criminal prosecution. The bill would remedy this problem by making violations subject to the same penalties.

I ask that my colleagues support this no-cost bill.

JEANNE OLIVER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jeanne Oliver for her continued commitment to our community.